

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

MISSION: The Commission shall act in an advisory role to the Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to parks and recreation. The concept of a recreational program, set forth by the National Recreation Association in a survey made shortly after the Commission's formation, indicated that the County Parks Department could best serve the people of Maricopa County by providing a regional park system, leaving the responsibility for organized neighborhood recreation to the various communities in which the neighborhood might be located.

FORMATION AUTHORITY: A.R.S. § 11-934 (D)

COMPOSITION: A.R.S. § 11-934: "A. A county may establish a parks and recreation department. The governing body shall appoint a county parks commission to consist of not more than fifteen members. Commission members representing all supervisorial districts shall be appointed for terms of six years which shall be arranged so that the terms of one third of the members shall expire every two years. B. The commission shall meet at least two times annually, and additional meetings may be held at any time or place within the county. Meetings may be held at the call of the chairman or a majority of the commission members. A majority of the commission shall constitute a quorum to transact business."

DUTIES AND POWERS: A.R.S. § 11-935: "A. The Commission shall supervise and control all county parks and all county recreational programs and establish and supervise law enforcement training programs for park rangers empowered to apprehend rule violators under §11-938. B. The commission may: 1. Direct the appointment of a full or part-time supervisor of county parks and recreational programs at a salary to be fixed by the governing body. 2. Make reasonable rules and regulations for the proper use, management, government and protection of, and maintenance of good order in, all public parks under its supervision and control, but such rules and regulations shall be related to preservation of public property, natural features and curiosities, or preservation of public health and safety in the parks and recreational areas. 3. Prescribe fees to be paid for the use of public parks facilities, which shall not be in excess of the amount required to improve and maintain the parks. Such fees shall be approved by the governing body. 4. Establish broad policies and long-range programs for the acquisition, planning, development, maintenance and operation of the county parks." By Policy: Determines policy for the operation of the Parks and Recreation Department, and to review, advise, and determine rules and regulations for the operation of the parks system. Reviews, advises, and recommends to the Board of Supervisors a schedule of fees for department programs and facility use. Maintains a primary responsibility for providing coordination and unison among the various governmental and non-governmental agencies. Serves as a "sounding board" for residents relating to parks and recreation. Assists in the development of increased public understanding and support for the parks and recreation movement. Assists in developing and maintaining good relationships with national and state associations. Supervises law enforcement training programs for park rangers and supervises the selection and appointment of the Parks and Recreation Director.

MEETINGS: Regular meetings are held every other month with a new schedule set at the beginning of every calendar year. The meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in the 411 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona in the first floor conference room.

LIAISON: Rhonda Woodward, Administrative Coordinator, Parks & Recreation Department, (602) 506-8778, fax (602) 506-4692.